

Alamogordo News

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ALAMOGORDO, N. MEX.

—By the—
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25 Copies of this paper may be found on file at Washington in the office of our special correspondent, E. G. Siggers, 918 F Street, N. W., Washington, D. C.

This January dividends are phenomenally large.

The British have reported a glorious victory.

Money talks and a comfortable balance in the treasury is more eloquent than a deficit.

GOVERNMENT is still a member of the Kentucky legislature. It is hard to get rid of bad habits.

The country has expanded wonderfully in the last century. Naturally its expenses have increased.

Isn't it about time for Pettigrew and Mason to discover some new crime that the president has committed.

The question now seems to be not whether we shall retain the Philippines, but how shall we govern them.

GERMANY is beginning to grow about the seizure of the Bundesrath. She also grows about the capture of Cavite a year or so ago.

The British forces in the Transvaal, have scored a victory and the English press has again resumed its normal attitude.

BRYAN is soon to start on another "wind jamming" tour. It is to be hoped that he may have "attentive and appreciative audiences."

Efforts made by Chairman Jones to reconcile Kentucky Democrats have failed and it is conceded that the state will be lost to Bryan this year.

The question is not so much whether this is the nineteenth or the twentieth century as it is to what century fossils like Hoar and McCluskey belong.

GENERAL FISHCHER seems to be in somewhat the same situation as the man who caught a Tartar, and had to summon aid to enable him to let him go again.

REPRESENTATIVE GROSVENOR is sure of reelection no matter what the Democrats say. He is the only member who quoted no poetry in his speech on the currency bill.

The securing of the open door to American merchants in Chinese territory dominated by European nations, is one of the greatest diplomatic triumphs of the generation.

The duty on lumber has protected the southern lumbermen so well that their product is in demand all over the Union, taking the place that Canadian lumber held under the Wilson bill.

Of course, the Democrats had to call on Mr. Gage for information about the relations of the government to the New York banks. They can't afford to miss the slightest chance for an issue.

CONGRESSMAN SHELLEY's deflection from the silver cause is said to have had a great effect in the south, where prosperous times had already disposed the people to abandon cheap money.

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IN THREE southern states, there are rival Democratic candidates for the United States senate, who divide on the question of expansion. That doesn't look as if the Democrats were united against it.

LORD SALISBURY has assured Ambassador Choate that the commercial rights of the United States shall be equitably considered in the matter of the flour seizures. Nothing more can be asked at present.

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OVER \$150,000,000 in dividends were distributed in New York, Boston and Philadelphia on New Years day and half as much more will be distributed on the 15th of the month. The county plainly has not gone to the dogs yet.

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SENATOR TELLER says that the silver party hasn't gone to pieces, but no one else can be found to deny the statement.

OF COURSE, the outbreak of the bubonic plague at Manila is entirely due to the "imperialism" of the administration.

THE country will not welcome an attempt to revive the Sampson-Schley controversy, no matter by whom it is made.

THE United States is fast becoming the creditor nation of the world. Only last week \$3,000,000 left New York to be invested in foreign securities.

RICHARD HARDING DAVIS is soon to start for the Transvaal as a war correspondent. When he reaches the seat of war some thrilling war stories may be expected.

THE Democrats who insisted that the state department was truckling to Great Britain in the matter of those four seizures should now have the manliness to confess that they were wrong.

AN exchange makes this humorous yet very apt suggestion: If you have a wealthy maiden aunt don't fail to send her a hand-painted card decorated with a bunch of forget-me-nots at Christmas time.

THE Filipino's hope now seems to be that Bryan will be elected this fall and they will be indemnified. There is about as much hope for the Tagalogs along this line as there is in a Filipino victory with arms.

REPRESENTATIVE GAINES of Tennessee is mad because a New York newspaper has charged him with voting against his convictions in the Roberts case. As a matter of fact about half the members of the house confessedly did the same.

UNEXPECTED as it may seem, the sentiment among the French seems to be in favor of England, in the South African war. The Nice hotel keepers have combined and offered to entertain the British convalescent soldiers free of charge.

THE present prosperity which this country is enjoying can be attributed to but one cause and that is wholesome Republican legislation. To what ever the opposing parties may attempt to ascribe it only emphasizes the truth of that statement.

OTERO county has made greater progress during the past year than any county in New Mexico, yet the development of its resources has only begun. Another year will see developments which will cause those that have already been made to pale into insignificance.

THE rumor that 5,000,000 pounds of diamonds are hoarded in Pretoria, and that the Boers have promised to divide a portion of the spoils with the troops as soon as that place falls, probably accounts for the rush of volunteers from all parts of the globe to the Transvaal.

THE American people are nothing if not generous. From every portion of the country contributions have poured in to swell the Lawton fund and already the widow of the gallant general who sacrificed his life in the Philippines for his country, has been provided for to the amount of \$50,000. Such evidences of sympathy and love are characteristic of Americans.

PROBABLY the most effective piece of advertising that has yet been issued by the El Paso & Northeastern railway people is the attractive little pamphlet entitled: "The Climatic Resources of the Sacramento Mountain Region." Its contents are such that it will be hailed with delight throughout the entire country by those who are suffering from pulmonary diseases. It deals principally with Fort Stanton, the site of the United States Government Sanitarium for consumptives, but in doing so, considerable attention is devoted to other portions of the Sacramento mountain region, the whole of which can not be surpassed in point of climatic excellence. Fort Stanton was not decided upon by the government as the place for erecting a sanitarium until every feature of the entire health resort of the entire country had been considered and it secured the sanitarium seats the seal of the government's approval upon it as possessing a climate that is superior to that of any other spot in the United States for the treatment of tuberculosis. A comparative table of the mean temperatures of Fort Stanton, Albuquerque, East Las Vegas, Fort Union, Fort Wingate, and Santa Fe shows the former place to be the coolest in the summer and the warmest in the winter, which of itself stamps it as an ideal climate for consumptives. The pamphlet referred to is exceeding well written and will no doubt be the means of opening the eyes of the nation to the wonderful climatic resources of the Sacramento mountain region.

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THE CHAPMAN MYSTERY.

How Mr. Latimer-Wynne Fooled a Detective.

"You will regret it yourself one day, Kate. I am sure you will." But Mrs. Latimer-Wynne only smiled again. She would not give way. Still, if she could have foreseen the terrible calamity that was about to befall her, she would no doubt have relented. But who can foresee the future?

Those who were living at Chapman—or indeed anywhere in London—at that time cannot have forgotten the extraordinary sensation that was excited by what was called the Chapman mystery, and the scene of the mystery was Mrs. Latimer-Wynne's house.

It appeared that as the various rooms in the upper story were in the hands of the painters and paperers Mr. Latimer-Wynne occupied temporarily the library on the ground floor as a bedroom, while his wife slept with the children on another floor. Nothing occurred during the night to disturb those who slept up stairs, but when the servants came down in the morning and proceeded to call their master they were unable to rouse him. After knocking repeatedly without receiving any reply they informed Mrs. Latimer-Wynne of the state of affairs. That lady was naturally much alarmed and at once sent for assistance. The door was forced open.

The scene which then presented itself was one calculated to excite the most serious apprehensions. There was no sign of Mr. Latimer-Wynne, but there were various indications of a desperate struggle. One of the windows was open below, and between this window and the bed the floor was strewn with fragments of the heavy china ever belonging to the washstand. It appeared as if this had been used by the unfortunate man as the only thing in the nature of a weapon within reach. More ominous still, a closer inspection revealed blood stains on the carpet.

The bed had evidently been occupied, but the pyjama suit in which Mr. Latimer-Wynne generally slept was missing. He happened not to have dressed for dinner the night before, and the ordinary morning clothes which he had been wearing were found folded up on a chair in his usual neat and methodical manner. But his valuable watch and chain, together with a large sum of money of which he was known to be in possession, had been carried off by the perpetrator or perpetrators.

Mrs. Latimer-Wynne was in despair. Of course the police were sent for immediately. They came in the persons of a district inspector and a sergeant. They looked at everything with eyes full of terrible meaning and nodded to each other significantly and occasionally grunted ejaculations. At last, in response to an impassioned appeal from the lady, the inspector succeeded in delivering himself of one or two consecutive sentences.

"Very sorry, mum; it looks like a bad business. Anyway, it's a detective job. We'll wire for one at once."

A little later Inspector Bickerdyke, the celebrated detective, made his appearance on the scene. He made a careful examination of everything in the room and then went outside, followed by Mrs. Latimer-Wynne and her servants. Here he pointed to a number of footmarks and said:

"Why, there seems to have been a whole gang at work. It isn't in reason that one man could do the job all by himself, but this looks like an army. Hello, what's this?" He pointed to two holes in the soft gravel which were conspicuous among the crowd of footmarks.

"I expect they were made by the ladder," said Mrs. Latimer-Wynne. "There was a ladder against the house yesterday for the workmen to do some painting."

"Oh, then, most of these are their footmarks," said the inspector, greatly disgusted. "That complicates matters a good deal, for now we can't get any clew from the footmarks."

It almost seemed as if even Inspector Bickerdyke would, for once, be baffled. But at last his patience was rewarded; as weep made his appearance on the scene and informed the detective that, as he was passing the house in the early dawn, he had seen a man, very shabbily dressed in a gray suit, stealing from the premises. At the moment he had not attached any importance to the circumstance, as he thought the man was one of the servants. Now, however, he felt it to be his duty to mention it.

The inspector's small eyes twinkled with satisfaction as he listened to this statement. The mere fact that the criminal wore a gray suit did not seem much to go upon, but Inspector Bickerdyke felt pretty sure that it would be enough for him. He would track that gray suit to the remotest corner of the earth.

When he had completed his investigation, he condescended to communicate the result to Mrs. Latimer-Wynne.

"It's a great pity, mum, the shabbers weren't put up last night. If they'd been up, this thing might never have happened. There were two of them in the job at least—per-

haps three. Mr. Wynne, he must have been in bed at the time, and as they came into the room he must have sprung out and tried to defend himself with the water jug. But they were too many for him. However, I think I know the gang, and it won't be long before I lay my hand on 'em."

"But my poor dear husband!" Mrs. Wynne exclaimed, clasping her hands and fixing her eyes with an imploring look on the inspector's face.

The inspector did not answer, but he shook his head gravely. You cannot recall to life a man once murdered. The only comfort for the well regulated mind must be the hope of bringing the murderer to justice.

The next morning there was in all the papers a long account of "The Chapman Mystery." A well known member of the Stock Exchange had been surprised by burglars when asleep, and, after a desperate resistance, had been murdered and the body carried off. And yet all the efforts of the police to discover where the corpse had been hidden had been fruitless. But the investigation having been intrusted to Inspector Bickerdyke, that famous detective had already made an arrest on suspicion. He had succeeded in tracking one of the supposed murderers—the man in the gray suit—step by step from Chapman to Whitechapel, where he had discovered him in a low public house and arrested him. It was added that he would be brought before the magistrates some time that day (Saturday).

When the man was placed in the dock—which, owing to various delays, was not till the afternoon—it soon became clear that the evidence was indeed very strong against him. Inspector Bickerdyke detailed all the circumstances of the crime and the arrest with his usual formality and clearness. "From information received" (though the sweep was to give his evidence the inspector could not bring himself to depart from the established formula) he had reason to believe that one of the criminals was an individual in a gray suit, who had been seen to leave the house under suspicious circumstances at a very early hour in the morning.

He (the inspector) had therefore set himself to work to track this individual and had, he believed, succeeded in doing so. He had arrested him at the Hen and Chickens in Whitechapel. The man refused his name and address, nor would he give any account of himself. He had therefore been taken to the station and there searched and his clothes examined. Blood stains were found upon them.

A "larceny" might be accounted for by a fresh cut on the thumb of the right hand. He had in his possession a large sum of money in notes and gold, of which he refused to give any account. In fact, he had hardly spoken a dozen words since his arrest. But the strongest piece of evidence against him was that a watch and chain had been found upon him, which had been shown to Mrs. Latimer-Wynne and had been identified by her as belonging to her husband.

"Is the lady here?" asked the magistrate.

"She was requested to be here at 3," said the inspector. "The case 'as come on a little earlier than we expected, your worship."

The magistrate looked at the clock, and the public stared at the prisoner. He looked a man capable of committing any crime. Short and thickset, he was evidently possessed of great strength. His general appearance was that of a disreputable loafer. The gray suit, to which he owed his detection, was very shabby; he had no collar—in fact, there was a total absence of linen; his hair was disheveled, his face unwashed, his chin covered with a thick stubble.

The evidence of the servants and of the sweep (who swore to his identity) was taken, and then, as Mrs. Latimer-Wynne had not arrived, the magistrate ordered the prisoner to be removed and the next case to be called.

But the next case had not been begun before Mrs. Latimer-Wynne made her appearance. She was at once conducted to the witness box and the prisoner brought back. Apparently even his hardened nature had broken down at the thought of confronting the widow of his victim, for he came back into the court holding a handkerchief to his eyes. Mrs. Latimer-Wynne cast one glance in his direction and then averted her gaze from an object so repulsive to her.

Her evidence was very short, relating as it did merely to the disappearance of her husband and the identification of the watch and chain. When it had been given, Inspector Bickerdyke asked that the prisoner should be remanded for a week, a request which was immediately granted by the magistrate. The prisoner had declined to put any questions to the witnesses. He was now asked if he wished to say anything before being removed, at the same time being warned that anything he might say might be used against him.

"Well, there is one thing I should like to ask," he said, "and that is whether there is any law in England against a man waring his own watch and chain!"

"Don't trifle with the court," said the magistrate sternly.

But something in the sound of the prisoner's voice had caused Mrs. Latimer-Wynne to turn round and to look at him again.

"What! Harry!" she cried. "Is it you?"

She could say no more. If she did not faint, as her grandmother would have done in similar circumstances, she sank back gasping into a seat.

"What is the meaning of all this?" asked the magistrate, glaring at Inspector Bickerdyke.

The inspector looked as if he were more ready to ask than to answer the question.

"Beg pardon, your worship," he stammered. "It beats me hollow."

"Allow me to explain," said the prisoner blandly. "I am Mr. Latimer-Wynne, and I am curious to know why a gentleman may not leave his own home early in the morning without being arrested. May I ask what crime I have committed?"

"Your conduct is most reprehensible, sir," said the magistrate, rattling with a sense of wounded dignity.

"Pardon me, your worship," said the prisoner. "I have done nothing. I have simply been passive in the hands of Inspector Bickerdyke."

"And what was your object in playing such a farce?" asked the magistrate, gulping down his indignation.

"Well, I had two objects. The first is a private one, with which I will not trouble your worship. The other was to see how far the clearness of a London detective would go. Now that I have got one of the lot to arrest a man as his own murderer, I am satisfied. I think I have established a record."

"How could you give me such a fright, Harry?" said Mrs. Latimer-Wynne, as a few minutes later and her husband were driving together in a cab. "It was very cruel of you."

"It was your own fault. You shouldn't have driven as you did."

"About what?" asked the prisoner with a delicious air of innocence.

"Oh, you know well enough. You had to stop you somehow in that beastly footpath. Next time I shall do it worse."

"But, Harry, dear, I really have thought of my duty to the law."

"Oh!" said Harry, "you needn't have smashed your foot on my finger, or cut my finger, or anything of the kind. Is to know what I meant?"—Boston Herald.

MICHIGAN

Counties Have Full Power to Vote For Highways.

The county road system in Michigan can be adopted by a majority vote of any county. Five road commissioners are elected, none of whom can be interested in any contract that may be entered into by the board. They have full power to lay out, change, alter, improve, or purchase any road, or to change the width, direction, or location of existing ones; purchase or donate with adjacent counties in order to out and maintaining roads and to any road as a county road, except in incorporated villages the county village must be obtained.

They can grade, drain, gravel, or otherwise improve in any way and to their judgment; construct and maintain culverts and bridges; and tract no indebtedness in excess of amount at their disposal in the hands of the county treasurer. A county may by vote hold itself for road purposes, and is liable for damages growing out of their bad condition. The system was adopted by Chippewa county in 1894, bonds for \$100,000 issued, and in the two years following nearly 180 miles of road were improved and built to the satisfaction of the people.

Telford Pavement.

The chief advantage of the telford is in the foundation, which consists of stones eight or ten inches long, laid upon a well rolled bed in regular rows across the road, the same as Belgian blocks are laid, the interstices closely chinked with stone chips and the surface made perfectly even. Upon this is placed a layer of three-quarter inch trap rock, covered with a dressing of clay, stone screenings and dust. A road so constructed in Delaware county, Pa., with an eight inch foundation, four inch layer of trap rock and surface dressed, cost 65 cents a square yard. I used to cost from 90 cents to \$1.10.

Canned goods, provisions, groceries, dry goods and clothing, hats and boots and shoes, the largest stock in the southern part of the territory carried, by R. H. Pierce & Company.

R. H. Pierce & Company carry the largest stock of general merchandise in Otero county and can supply ranchmen, cattlemen, railroad men and miners with provisions and dry goods on a moment's notice.

Pillsbury's best flour at Peoples Bros.

LETTER LIST.

Letters remaining uncalled for in the postoffice at Alamogordo, N. M., for the month ending Dec. 31:

Abeyta, Sr. Felisbora Romanchez, Becerra
Apaloni, Sr. Leandro Rodriguez de B. Esten
Billa, Don Sclero Riley, Hey
Bla, Sr. Sclero Robison, Albert
Becker, Rudolph Sanchez, Tio
Dewalt, John Shields, W. J.
Eziquiel, Polinario Stephens, C.
Faton, Mrs. Mary Somarril, M. W.
Giron, Mr. Nicolas Taylor, Mrs. Abbie
Gambon, Antonio S. Tlilhe, F. E.
Sancos, Miguel Villalpando, Sr. Carlos
Lolis, Sr. Anastacia Wailley, Miss Nell
Woodworth, J.

If the above letters are not called for in 30 days they will be sent to the postoffice at Washington, D. C.

The Short Line

Through Pullman and Dining Car Service on magnificent

composed of Pullman Palace Sleepers, Elegant Dining Cars, Cars, free, running through without change between Chicago and coast. Ask or address agents below for time cards and particulars to the "Santa Fe Route."

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